

### REMARKS

The Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Examiner's Action mailed December 30, 2004, in which claims 20, 24-26 and 28-33 were objected to as containing allowable subject matter. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the comments set forth below.

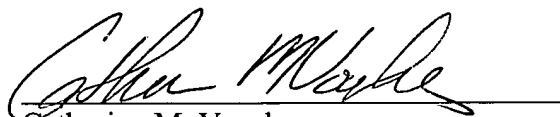
By this Amendment, the subject matter of indicated allowable claim 28 is added to independent claim 18 and claim 28 is cancelled. Claim 29 is amended to depend from amended claim 18 that includes the indicated allowable subject matter and all limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, claims 19-27 and 29-33 depend either directly or indirectly from an independent claim amended to include indicated allowable claim subject matter. Claims 18-27 and 29-33 are pending in the instant application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of record be withdrawn and that a Notice of Allowance be issued indicating that claims 18-27 and 29-33 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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